

POLICY

Doc Id: Pol 2 Rev 5 Date: 05.07.2024

Title: Impartiality Policy

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Originator: Michelle Dingwall (Operations & Quality Manager) Approver: Dominic Moran (Director)

Being impartial and being perceived to be impartial is necessary for Tech Inspections Ltd to deliver certification that provides confidence. This also enables Tech Inspection Ltd to maintain the professionalism and credibility of the inspection and certification processes. Impartiality is not only an accreditation requirement for a third-party certification and inspection body; it is an absolute necessity to maintain professionalism and credibility of the inspection and certification process. It is therefore the objective of Tech Inspections Ltd to be a self-financed independent organization, which ensures that it retains its impartiality.

Tech Inspections Ltd will not accept applications for certification or inspection of organizations who report directly to a person or group who also have operational responsibility for Tech Inspection Ltd.

In addition, no Tech Inspections Ltd office, joint venture or wholly owned, shall enter into any partnerships that provide full consultancy or consultancy in part.

The following controls shall be implemented, maintained, and complied with by all staff to ensure this impartiality policy is maintained.

- 1. Inspection staff are prohibited from participating in the inspection of any organization to which they have given assistance, by consultancy or training (other than professionally registered training.
- When allocated to a particular contract, inspection staff shall not disclose or discuss any details; before or after the inspections; to any member of staff other than their direct management or other members of the team, as requires by the Confidentiality Agreement signed on the commencement of employment.
- 3. All sub-contracted/Inspection staff of Tech Inspection Ltd shall sign a Confidentiality agreement.
- 4. Tech Inspections Ltd direct employees are prohibited from engaging in consultancy activities, which involve the active design, generation, or implementation of a Quality or Environmental Management System.
- 5. All directly employed management and staff are required to declare all financial interests or business activities on commencement and during the period of employment.
- 6. Tech Inspection ltd staff cannot offer consultancy or inspection services to any of Tech Inspection Ltd.'s clients.
- 7. Overall, the certification of companies who supply a service to Tech Inspections Itd is not deemed to be an unacceptable threat to conflict of interest. However, certification of a company in partnership with whom Tech Inspections Ltd provides a direct service deemed to be unacceptable threat to impartiality. Should such a partnership develop, a new accredited certification body will be sourced to continue certification.

Issue Date: 15/09/2020 Page 1 of 2 TI F20 Rev 2



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Tech Inspections Ltd recognize that the source of revenue for a certification body is the client paying for certification, and that this is a potential threat to impartiality. Therefore, Tech Inspection Ltd is a self-financed independent organization, with a number of controls to ensure that impartiality is retained. To obtain and maintain confidence, it is essential that Tech Inspections Ltd.'s decisions are based on objective evidence of conformity or non-conformity, and that any decisions made are not influenced by other interests or by other parties.

Tech Inspections Ltd recognizes the risks to impartiality include the following:

- The risk of self-interest arising from a person or body acting in their own interest.
- The risk of self-review arising from a person reviewing the work that they have conducted themselves.
- The over-familiarity arising from a person becoming too familiar with or too trusting of the client and their inspection requirements.
- The risk of intimidation threats arising from a person having a perception of being coerced openly or secretively, such as a threat to be replaced or reported to a supervisor.

The identification of risks and the potential impact to the inspection and certification schemes operated by Tech Inspections, will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. All identified risks will be recorded and the impact analysed.

Signed: Date: 22/09/2024

D Moran Managing Director

Issue Date: 15/09/2020 Page 2 of 2 TI F20 Rev 2